INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internation No

PCT/JP2004/016179 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H01J37/32 H03H7/40 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) HO1J HO3H IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category ° EP 0 902 457 A (ENI TECHNOLOGIES, INC) 1-13 A 17 March 1999 (1999-03-17) abstract paragraphs '0001!, '0002!, '0008! paragraphs '0011!, '0014! paragraph '0016! paragraphs '0025!, '0026!; figures 1,2 US 6 259 334 B1 (HOWALD ARTHUR M) 1-3,5A 10 July 2001 (2001-07-10) abstract column 4, lines 40-43 column 5, lines 3-8,23-26 column 7, lines 16-55; figure 5 column 8, line 9 - line 30; figure 6 Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Special categories of cited documents: "I" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filling date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled other means in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 03/05/2005 27 April 2005 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer

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International Application No
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